

We claim:

1. A process for producing carbamazepine which comprises reacting iminostilbene with an alkali cyanate in acetic acid, or a mixture of aqueous acetic acid with water, or within alcohol and recovering the resulting carbamazepine.

2. The process of claim 1, wherein an aqueous acetic acid mixture is employed containing up to about 20% wt. water based on the mixture.

3. The process of claim 1, wherein an alcoholic acetic acid mixture is used containing up to about 10% wt. alcohol based on the mixture.

4. The process of claim 3, wherein the alcohol is methanol or ethanol.

5. The process of claim 1, wherein the alkali cyanate is gradually added directly to the reaction mixture of iminostilbene and acetic acid, or acetic acid mixture.

6. The process of claim 1, wherein the alkali cyanate is added in an aqueous solution.

7. The process of claim 1, wherein the alkali cyanate is sodium- or potassium cyanate.

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